

ABSTRACT

A spinal implant of cortical bone for insertion in the anterior to antereolateral approaches has a smooth surfaced cylindrical bore along a plane between inferior and superior vertebral engagement surfaces which may be roughened and which may be inclined to match the lordosis of the vertebrae. The bore may extend from the anterior surface through the implant into a central chamber or may be blind. The instrument has a straight shaft which is bent at a proximal end opposite a handle at the distal end. The bend is formed into an implant engaging member which has a circular cylindrical smooth surface and closely mates with and is complementary to the implant bore. The instrument is used to rotate or otherwise finely manipulate the implant in the plane of the disc space to a desired orientation from the initial improper insertion orientation. Impact forces on the handle torques the instrument and implant in the desired direction with minimum stress concentration on the implant in the bore to minimize damage to the bone that might otherwise occur in the presence of such stress concentration.